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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Military and Economic Information: Chinese Communist Activities in the Chefoo Area

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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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During May 1948 many small skirmishes were fought between Chinese Communist troops and small patrols of Nationalist 8th Army troops moving out from Chefoo (121-24, 37-32); none of these were decisive in any way, although in every instance the Communists apparently suffered more casualties than did the Nationalist troops. In the area approximately 25 li south of Chefoo, Communists and Nationalists engaged in a battle which went on during the entire night of 9 May and resulted in the following: approximately 900 Communists killed, 700 captured, in addition to the seizure of three 75 calibre guns, five heavy machine guns, 600 rifles and 3,500 rounds of ammunition; the Nationalists lost three officers, 197 enlisted men, and two trucks. Three days later, on 12 May, the two forces again met and this time the Communists lost approximately 400 troops and the Nationalists lost about 150.

2. Refugees continue to pour into Chefoo from Communist-controlled areas of Shantung. Nationalist 8th Army figures in Chefoo indicate the presence of about 170,000 refugees in Chefoo. The municipal government has established refugee shelters, but food is a big item and there is little available for use by the refugees.

3. Many refugees have left Chefoo and returned to their homes because of the shortage of food; the Communists have not only encouraged them to return, but have fed them as well. Many of the refugees returning from Chefoo to their native places have voluntarily agreed to work for the Communists, and many are involuntarily conscripted and then sent to the area of Chihsia (120-49, 37-16) where they are trained to work in the Communist arsenals. [REDACTED] reports from Chihsia indicate two training schools in this area - one for arsenal technicians, and the other for intelligence. It is estimated that at the present time there are 1,500 men attending these schools.

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